

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 OMB-01 INRE-00 SSO-00
NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
AID-05 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 USSS-00 OC-06 CCO-00
TRSE-00 /082 W
-----061310Z 046302 /42

O P 061155Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1447
INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY
AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY
AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY
CINCPAC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 4637

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PK
SUBJECT: POLITICAL SITUATION IN PAKISTAN

REF: LAHORE 486

1. SUMMARY: OPPOSITION PAKISTAN NATIONAL ALLIANCE LEADERS
HAVE SENT PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO A SPECIFIC SET OF PROPOSALS
FOR A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT TO THE CURRENT CRISIS. ACTING
PNA PRESIDENT PIR OF PAGARO REVEALED THIS TO NEWSMEN MAY 5.
PRIME MINISTER TOLD NEWSMEN NIGHT OF MAY 5 THAT PNA LIST
OF PROPOSAL IS SO LARGE AS TO LEAD TO CONFUSION AND
COMPLICATIONS. HE CALLED FOR THEM TO SUBMIT LIST OF
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FUNDAMENTAL PROPOSALS. MEANWHILE, ISLAMABAD POLICE HAVE
REGISTERED CASES AGAINST PNA LEADERS INCLUDING PIR OF
PAGARO FOR PLANNING MAY 6 "MARTYRS DAY" DEMONSTRATIONS.
MARTIAL LAW AUTHORITIES IN LAHORE AND KARACHI HAVE TAKEN
FIRM STAND TO PRESENT ANY DEMONSTRATIONS FROM TAKING PLACE
MAY 6. END OF SUMMARY.

2. OPPOSITION PAKISTAN NATIONAL ALLIANCE LEADERS HAVE SENT PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO A LONG AND SPECIFIC SET OF PROPOSALS FOR A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT TO THE CURRENT CRISIS. THEY CLAIM THAT SO FAR THE PM HAS NOT SENT THEM AN ANSWER. PNA ACTING PRESIDENT PIR OF PAGARO RELEASED THE PROPOSALS TO NEWSMEN MAY 5, SAYING THAT DESPITE WHAT THE PM HAS STATED PUBLICLY, HE HAS SENT PNA LEADERS NEW PROPOSALS AND THE TIME HAS COME FOR THE PNA TO MAKE ITS POSITION PUBLIC. THE LIST INCLUDES ALL THREE OF THE PNA'S BASIC DEMANDS: (A) END OF EMERGENCY AND MARTIAL LAW, PLUS RELEASE OF POLITICAL DETENUS; (B) HOLDING OF SIMULTANEOUS NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS, TO BE ANNOUNCED WITHIN ONE WEEK OF REACHING AGREEMENT AND TO BE HELD WITHIN THIRTY DAYS OF AN IMMEDIATE DISSOLUTION OF NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLIES; AND (C) PRIME MINISTER TO RESIGN FROM OFFICE, WHICH HE IS TO DO IMMEDIATELY AFTER DISSOLUTION OF NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLIES. PNA LIST ALSO REQUIRES RECONSTITUTION OF ELECTION COMMISSION BY MUTUAL CONSENT OF PNA AND PPP, RETURN OF PAK ARMY TO BARRACKS IN BALUCHISTAN, AND A SERIES OF PROVISIONS DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS. CALL FOR PM'S RESIGNATION DOES NOT EXPLAIN HOW GOVERNMENT IS TO BE RUN BETWEEN THEN AND ELECTION, LEAVING OPEN POSSIBILITY THAT BHUTTO COULD REMAIN HEAD OF A CARETAKER GOVERNMENT. PIR OF PAGARO SAID THESE PROPOSALS ARE A REPLY TO PM'S LETTER TO PNA PRESIDENT MAULANA MUFTI MAHMOOD.

3. PRIME MINISTER TOLD NEWSMEN NIGHT OF MAY 5 THAT PNA LIST OF PROPOSALS IS SO LARGE THAT THEY WOULD LEAD TO CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFUSION AND COMPLICATIONS. HE SUGGESTED THAT PNA LEADERS SHOULD INSTEAD SEEK EARLY SETTLEMENT OF CRISIS BY RESTRICTING THEIR PROPOSALS TO BASIC POINTS AND SUBMIT LIST OF "FUNDAMENTAL" PROPOSALS.

4. MEANWHILE, ISLAMABAD POLICE HAVE REGISTERED CASES AGAINST PIR OF PAGARO AND OTHER PNA LEADERS FOR MEETING DURING PAST WEEK TO DRAW UP PLANS FOR MAY 6 "MARTYRS' DAY" OBSERVATIONS, INCLUDING DEMONSTRATIONS IN VIOLATION OF MARTIAL LAW ORDERS. SO FAR THERE ARE NO REPORTS OF PIR OF PAGARO'S ARREST.

5. MARTIAL LAW AUTHORITIES IN LAHORE AND KARACHI HAVE TAKEN FIRM STAND TO PREVENT ANY DEMONSTRATIONS TO TAKE PLACE MAY 6. REPORTS OF MAY 6 ACTIVITIES FOLLOW BY SEPTTEL FROM CONSTITUENT POSTS. MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR FOR LAHORE IMPOSED CURFEW ON THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION BEGINNING MIDNIGHT MAY 6 AND EXTENDING UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. IN AN EQUALLY STRONGLY WORDED ANNOUNCEMENT, ZONE A MARTIAL LAW

AUTHORITIES IN KARACHI, SEEKING TO FOIL PLANS FOR
DEMONSTRATIONS BY WOMEN AND CHILDREN, HAVE CLOSED KARACHI
AND HYDERABAD DISTRICT SCHOOLS FOR MAY 6 AND HAVE IMPOSED
CURFEW 0100 TO 0500, 0900 TO 1300, AND 1500 TO 1900 HOURS
MAY 6. AUTHORITIES IN BOTH AREAS HAVE WARNED WOULD-BE
MISCREANTS THAT THEY FACE STRONG MEASURES.

6. MAY 6 PAKISTANI PRESS CONFIRMS ARRESTS REPORTED LAHORE
REFTEL.
CONSTABLE

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Message Attributes

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